

STIRLEY NEWELL - Originator  
FRANK SAGARINO - Concurring  
JOHN AMEY - Concurring  
CLARK KENNEDY - Concurring

September 21, 1961  
Opinion No. 61-69

REQUESTED BY: Charles Pemberton, Supervisor  
Traffic Safety Division, Ariz. Highway Dept.

OPINION BY: ROBERT W. PICKRELL,  
The Attorney General

QUESTION: When a bus is used to transport pupils  
on school activity trips, is it a "school  
bus" within the meaning of the Motor  
Vehicle Code?

CONCLUSION: Yes.


A.R.S. §28-141 provides the following definition:

"'School bus' means a motor vehicle owned by a public or governmental agency or other institution, and operated for the transportation of children to or from school or privately-owned and operated for compensation for the transportation of children to or from school." (Emphasis supplied)

The intentment of the school bus provisions of Title 28, the Motor Vehicle Code, is the safety of the students who ride thereon. The phrase "to or from school," contained in the above quoted section, is not confined in its meaning to "school to home or home to school." Further, the word "school" applies to more than the physical plant; it also connotes all functions of the school, wherever they might take place.

It is, therefore, the opinion of the Attorney General that a school bus as defined in A.R.S. §28-141 includes a motor vehicle used to transport children on school activity trips. This opinion is in concurrence with prior opinion of the Attorney General No. 52-197.

STIRLEY NEWELL  
Assistant Attorney General

  
ROBERT W. PICKRELL  
The Attorney General

RWP/ SN/mm

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